Java 8 Programmer II Study Guide



Chapter TEN Java Built-In Lambda Interfaces

Exam Objectives

Use the built-in interfaces included in the java.util.function package such as Predicate, Consumer, Function, and Supplier.

Develop code that uses primitive versions of functional interfaces.

Develop code that uses binary versions of functional interfaces.

Develop code that uses the UnaryOperator interface.

Why built-in interfaces?

A lambda expression must correspond to one functional interface.

We can use any interface as a lambda expression as long as the interface only contains one abstract method.

We also saw that the Java 8 API has many functional interfaces that we can use to construct lambda expressions, like <code>java.lang.Runnable</code> or <code>java.lang.Comparable</code>.

However, Java 8 contains new functional interfaces to work specifically with lambda expressions, covering the most common scenarios usages.

For example, two common scenarios are to filter things based on a particular condition and test for some condition on the properties of an object.

In the previous chapters, we used:

```
interface Searchable {
   boolean test(Car c);
}
```

But the problem is that we have to write an interface like that in each program that uses it (or link a library that contains it).

Luckily, an interface that does the same but accepts any object type already exists in the language.

The new functional interfaces are located inside the java.util.function package.

There are five of them:

- Predicate<T>
- Consumer<T>
- Function<T, R>
- Supplier<T>
- UnaryOperator<T>

Where τ and R represent generic types (τ represents a parameter type and R the return type).

Also, they also have specializations for the cases where the input parameter is a primitive type (actually just for <code>int</code>, <code>long</code>, <code>double</code>, and <code>boolean</code> just in the case of <code>Supplier</code>), for example:

- IntPredicate
- LongConsumer
- BooleanSupplier

Where the name is preceded by the appropriate primitive type.

Plus, four of them have binary versions, which means they take two parameters instead of one:

- BiPredicate<L, R>
- BiConsumer<T, U>
- BiFunction<T, U, R>
- BinaryOperator<T>

Where τ , υ , and R represent generic types (τ and υ represent parameter types and R the return type).

The following tables show the complete list of interfaces.

You don't have to memorize them, just try to understand them.

In the following pages, each interface will be explained.

Functional Interface	Primitive Versions
Predicate <t></t>	IntPredicate LongPredicate DoublePredicate
Consumer <t></t>	IntConsumer LongConsumer DoubleConsumer
Function <t, r=""></t,>	<pre>IntFunction<r> IntToDoubleFunction IntToLongFunction LongFunction</r></pre> LongToDoubleFunction LongToIntFunction DoubleFunction DoubleToIntFunction DoubleToIntFunction ToIntFunction ToDoubleFunction ToDoubleFunction ToLongFunction ToLongFunction ToLongFunction

Supplier <t></t>	BooleanSupplier IntSupplier LongSupplier DoubleSupplier
UnaryOperator <t></t>	IntUnaryOperator LongUnaryOperator DoubleUnaryOperator

Functional Interface	Primitive Versions
BiPredicate <l, r=""></l,>	
BiConsumer <t, u=""></t,>	ObjIntConsumer <t> ObjLongConsumer<t> ObjDoubleConsumer<t></t></t></t>
BiFunction <t, r="" u,=""></t,>	ToIntBiFunction <t, u=""> ToLongBiFunction<t, u=""> ToDoubleBiFunction<t, u=""></t,></t,></t,>
BinaryOperator <t></t>	IntBinaryOperator LongBinaryOperator DoubleBinaryOperator

Predicate

A predicate is a statement that may be true or false depending on the values of its variables.

This functional interface can be used anywhere you need to evaluate a boolean condition.

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface Predicate<T> {
   boolean test(T t);
   // Other default and static methods
   // ...
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
T -> boolean
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
Predicate<String> startsWithA = new Predicate<String>() {
    @Override
    public boolean test(String t) {
        return t.startsWith("A");
    }
};
boolean result = startsWithA.test("Arthur");
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
Predicate<String> startsWithA = t -> t.startsWith("A");
boolean result = startsWithA.test("Arthur");
```

This interface also has the following default methods:

```
default Predicate<T> and(Predicate<? super T> other)
default Predicate<T> or(Predicate<? super T> other)
default Predicate<T> negate()
```

These methods return a composed Predicate that represents a short-circuiting logical **AND** and **OR** of this predicate and another and its logical negation.

Short-circuiting means that the other predicate won't be evaluated if the value of the first predicate can predict the result of the operation (if the first predicate return false in the case of **AND** or if it returns true in the case of **OR**).

These methods are useful to combine predicates and make the code more readable, for example:

```
Predicate<String> startsWithA = t -> t.startsWith("A");
Predicate<String> endsWithA = t -> t.endsWith("A");
boolean result = startsWithA.and(endsWithA).test("Hi");
```

Also there's a static method:

```
static <T> Predicate<T> isEqual(Object targetRef)
```

That returns a Predicate that tests if two arguments are equal according to Objects.equals(Object, Object).

There are also primitive versions for int , long and double . They don't extend from Predicate .

For example, here's the definition of IntPredicate:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface IntPredicate {
   boolean test(int value);
   // And the default methods: and, or, negate
}
```

So instead of using:

```
Predicate<Integer> even = t -> t % 0 == 1;
boolean result = even.test(5);
```

You can use:

```
IntPredicate even = t -> t % 0 == 1;
boolean result = even.test(5);
```

Why?

Just to avoid the conversion from Integer to int and work directly with primitive types.

Notice that these primitive versions don't have a generic type. Due to the way generics are implemented, parameters of the functional interfaces can be bound only to object types.

Since the conversion from the wrapper type (Integer) to the primitive type (int) uses more memory and comes with a performance cost, Java provides these versions to avoid autoboxing operations when inputs or outputs are primitives.

Consumer

A consumer is an operation that accepts a single input argument and returns no result; it just execute some operations on the argument.

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface Consumer<T> {
    void accept(T t);
    // And a default method
    // ...
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
T -> void
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
Consumer<String> consumeStr = new Consumer<String>() {
    @Override
    public void accept(String t) {
        System.out.println(t);
    }
};
consumeStr.accept("Hi");
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
Consumer<String> consumeStr = t -> System.out.println(t);
consumeStr.accept("Hi");
```

This interface also has the following default method:

```
default Consumer<T> andThen(Consumer<? super T> after)
```

This method returns a composed consumer that performs, in sequence, the operation of the consumer followed by the operation of the parameter.

These methods are useful to combine Consumer's and make the code more readable, for example:

The output is:

```
First: Hi
Second: Hi
```

Look how both consumer s take the same argument and the order of execution.

There are also primitive versions for <code>int</code>, <code>long</code> and <code>double</code>. They don't extend from <code>Consumer</code>.

For example, here's the definition of IntConsumer:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface IntConsumer {
    void accept(int value);
    default IntConsumer andThen(IntConsumer after) {
        // ...
    }
}
```

So instead of using:

```
int[] a = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8};
printList(a, t -> System.out.println(t));
//...
void printList(int[] a, Consumer<Integer> c) {
    for(int i : a) {
        c.accept(i);
    }
}
```

You can use:

```
int[] a = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8};
printList(a, t -> System.out.println(t));
//...
void printList(int[] a, IntConsumer c) {
    for(int i : a) {
        c.accept(i);
    }
}
```

Function

A function represents an operation that takes an input argument of a certain type and produces a result of another type.

A common use is to convert or transform from one object to another.

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface Function<T, R> {
    R apply(T t);
    // Other default and static methods
    // ...
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
T -> R
```

Assuming a method:

```
void round(double d, Function<Double, Long> f) {
   long result = f.apply(d);
   System.out.println(result);
}
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
round(5.4, new Function<Double, Long>() {
   Long apply(Double d) {
      return Math.round(d);
   }
});
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
round(5.4, d -> Math.round(d));
```

This interface also has the following default methods:

```
default <V> Function<V,R> compose(
     Function<? super V,? extends T> before)
default <V> Function<T,V> andThen(
     Function<? super R,? extends V> after)
```

The difference between these methods is that <code>compose</code> applies the function represented by the parameter first, and its result serves as the input to the other function. <code>andThen</code> first applies the function that calls the method, and its result acts as the input of the function represented by the parameter.

For example:

```
Function<String, String> f1 = s -> {
    return s.toUpperCase();
};
Function<String, String> f2 = s -> {
    return s.toLowerCase();
};
System.out.println(f1.compose(f2).apply("Compose"));
System.out.println(f1.andThen(f2).apply("AndThen"));
```

The output is:

```
COMPOSE
andthen
```

In the first case, f1 is the last function to be applied. In the second case, f2 is the last function to be applied.

Also there's a static method:

```
static <T> Function<T, T> identity()
```

That returns a function that always returns its input argument.

In the case of primitive versions, they also apply to <code>int</code>, <code>long</code> and <code>double</code>, but there are more combinations than the previous interfaces:

• To indicate that the function returns a generic type and takes a primitive argument, the interface is named **XXXFunction**, for example, IntFunction:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface IntFunction<R> {
    R apply(int value);
}
```

 To indicate that the function returns a primitive type and takes a generic argument, the interface is named ToXXXFunction, for example, ToIntFunction:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface ToIntFunction<T> {
    int applyAsInt(T value);
}
```

• To indicate that the function takes a primitive argument and returns another primitive type, the interface is named **XXXToYYYFunction**, where **XXX** is the argument type and **YYY** is the return type, for example, IntToDoubleFunction:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface IntToDoubleFunction {
    double applyAsDouble(int value);
}
```

Remember that these interfaces are for convenience, to work directly with primitives, for example:

```
DoubleFunction<R> instead of Function<Double, R>
ToLongFunction<T> instead of Function<T, Long>
IntToLongFunction instead of Function<Integer, Long>
```

Supplier

A supplier does the opposite of a consumer, it takes no arguments and only returns some value.

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface Supplier<T> {
    T get();
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
() -> T
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
String t = "One";
Supplier<String> supplierStr = new Supplier<String>() {
    @Override
    public String get() {
        return t.toUpperCase();
    }
};
System.out.println(supplierStr.get());
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
String t = "One";
Supplier<String> supplierStr = () -> t.toUpperCase();
System.out.println(supplierStr.get());
```

This interface doesn't define default methods.

There are also primitive versions for int, long and double and boolean. They don't extend from Supplier.

For example, here's the definition of BooleanSupplier:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface BooleanSupplier {
    boolean getAsBoolean();
}
```

That can be used instead of Supplier.

UnaryOperator

UnaryOperator is just a specialization of the Function interface (in fact, this interface extends from it) for when the argument and the result are of the same type.

This how the interface is defined:

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
T -> T
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
UnaryOperator<String> uOp = new UnaryOperator<String>() {
     @Override
public String apply(String t) {
     return t.substring(0,2);
     }
};
System.out.println(uOp.apply("Hello"));
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
UnaryOperator<String> uOp = t -> t.substring(0,2);
System.out.println(uOp.apply("Hello"));
```

This interface inherits the default methods of the Function interface:

```
default <V> Function<V,R> compose(
    Function<? super V,? extends T> before)
```

```
default <V> Function<T,V> andThen(
    Function<? super R,? extends V> after)
```

And just defines the static method identity() for this interface (since static methods are not inherited):

```
static <T> UnaryOperator<T> identity()
```

That returns an UnaryOperator that always returns its input argument.

There are also primitive versions for <code>int</code>, <code>long</code> and <code>double</code>. They don't extend from <code>UnaryOperator</code>.

For example, here's the definition of IntUnaryOperator:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface IntUnaryOperator {
    int applyAsInt(int value);
    // Definitions for compose, andThen, and identity
}
```

So instead of using:

```
int[] a = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8};
int sum = sumNumbers(a, t -> t * 2);
//...
int sumNumbers(int[] a, UnaryOperator<Integer> unary) {
    int sum = 0;
    for(int i : a) {
        sum += unary.apply(i);
    }
    return sum;
}
```

You can use:

BiPredicate

This interface represents a predicate that takes two arguments.

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface public interface BiPredicate<T, U> {
    boolean test(T t, U u);
    // Default methods are defined also
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
(T, U) -> boolean
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

And with a lambda expression:

```
BiPredicate<Integer, Integer> divisible =
    (t, u) -> t % u == 0;
boolean result = divisible.test(10, 5);
```

This interface defines the same default methods of the Predicate interface, but with two arguments:

This interface doesn't have primitive versions.

BiConsumer

This interface represents a consumer that takes two arguments (and don't return a result).

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface BiConsumer<T, U> {
    void accept(T t, U u);
    // andThen default method is defined
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
(T, U) -> void
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
BiConsumer<String, String> consumeStr =
          new Consumer<String, String>() {
      @Override
    public void accept(String t, String u) {
         System.out.println(t + " " + u);
      }
    };
consumeStr.accept("Hi", "there");
```

And with a lambda expression:

This interface also has the following default method:

```
default BiConsumer<T, U> andThen(
          BiConsumer<? super T, ? super U> after)
```

This method returns a composed BiConsumer that performs, in sequence, the operation of the consumer followed by the operation of the parameter.

As in the case of a <code>consumer</code>, these methods are useful to combine <code>BiConsumer</code> s and make the code more readable, for example:

```
BiConsumer<String, String> first = (t, u) -> System.out.println(t.toUpperCase() + u.tol BiConsumer<String, String> second = (t, u) -> System.out.println(t.toLowerCase() + u.tofirst.andThen(second).accept("Again", " and again");
```

The output is:

```
AGAIN AND AGAIN again and again
```

There are also primitive versions for <code>int</code>, <code>long</code> and <code>double</code>. They don't extend from <code>BiConsumer</code>, and instead of taking two <code>int</code> s, for example, they take one object and a primitive value as a second argument. So the naming convention changes to <code>ObjXXXConsumer</code>, where <code>XXX</code> is the primitive type. For example, here's the definition of <code>ObjIntConsumer</code>:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface ObjIntConsumer<T> {
    void accept(T t, int value);
}
```

So instead of using:

```
int[] a = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8};
printList(a, (t, i) -> System.out.println(t + i));
//...
void printList(int[] a, BiConsumer<String, Integer> c) {
    for(int i : a) {
        c.accept("Number:", i);
    }
}
```

You can use:

```
int[] a = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8};
printList(a, (t, i) -> System.out.println(t + i));
//...
void printList(int[] a, ObjIntConsumer<String> c) {
    for(int i : a) {
        c.accept("Number:", i);
    }
}
```

BiFunction

This interface represents a function that takes two arguments of different type and produces a result of another type.

This how the interface is defined:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface BiFunction<T, U, R> {
    R apply(T t, U u); // Other default and static methods
    // ...
}
```

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
(T, U) -> R
```

Assuming a method:

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
round(5.4, 3.8, new BiFunction<Double, Double, Long>() {
    Long apply(Double d1, Double d2) {
        return Math.round(d1 + d2);
    }
});
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
round(5.4, 3.8, (d1, d2) -> Math.round(d1, d2));
```

This interface, unlike Function, has only one default method:

That returns a composed function that first applies the function that calls and then to its input, to finally apply the function represented by the argument to the result.

This interface also has less primitive versions than <code>Function</code>. It only has the versions that take generic types as arguments and return <code>int</code>, <code>long</code> and <code>double</code> primitive types, with the naming convention <code>ToXXXBiFunction</code>, where XXX is the primitive type.

For example, here's the definition of ToIntBiFunction:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface ToIntBiFunction<T, U> {
    int applyAsInt(T t, U u);
}
```

That replaces Bifunction.

BinaryOperator

This interface is a specialization of the BiFunction interface (in fact, this interface extends from it) for when the arguments and the result are of the same type.

This how the interface is defined:

So the functional descriptor (method signature) is:

```
(T, T) -> T
```

Here's an example using an anonymous class:

```
BinaryOperator<String> binOp = new BinaryOperator<String>() {
    @Override
    public String apply(String t, String u) {
        return t.concat(u);
    }
};
System.out.println(binOp.apply("Hello", " there"));
```

And with a lambda expression:

```
BinaryOperator<String> binOp = (t, u) -> t.concat(u);
System.out.println(binOp.apply("Hello", " there"));
```

This interface inherits the default method of the Bifunction interface:

And defines two new static methods:

That return a BinaryOperator, which returns the lesser or greater of two elements according to the specified Comparator.

Here's a simple example:

As you can see, these methods are just a wrapper to execute a comparator.

Comparator.naturalOrder() returns a Comparator that compares Comparable objects in natural order. To execute it, we just call the apply() method with the two arguments

needed by the BinaryOperator . Unsurprisingly, the output is:

```
28
```

There are also primitive versions for <code>int</code>, <code>long</code> and <code>double</code>, where the two arguments and the return type are of the same primitive type. They don't extend from <code>BinaryOperator</code> Or <code>BiFunction</code>.

For example, here's the definition of IntBinaryOperator:

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface IntBinaryOperator {
    int applyAsInt(int left, int right);
}
```

That you can use instead of BinaryOperator.

Key Points

 Java 8 contains new functional interfaces to work with lambda expressions that cover the most common scenarios usages located in the java.util.function package.

They are:

- o Predicate
- o Consumer
- Function
- o Supplier
- UnaryOperator
- These interfaces have versions that work with primitive values for int, long and double, and boolean (only for Supplier) just to avoid the cost of converting a wrapper class to its primitive value, for example, Integer to int.
- These interfaces take one argument (represented by the generic type T), but with the exception of Supplier (that doesn't take any arguments), they have versions that take two arguments called binary versions.
- A Predicate can be used anywhere you need to evaluate a boolean condition. Its function descriptor (method signature) is:

```
T -> boolean
```

- It has primitive versions for int, long and double, for example, IntPredicate.
- A Consumer is an operation that accepts a single input argument and returns no result. Its functional descriptor is:

```
T -> void
```

- It has primitive versions for int , long and double , for example, IntConsumer .
- A Function is an operation that takes an input argument of a certain type and produces a result of another type. Its functional descriptor is:

```
T -> R
```

- It has a lot of primitive versions for int, long and double. We can divide them into three types.
- To indicate that the function returns a generic type and takes a primitive argument, the interface is named **XXXFunction**, for example, IntFunction.
- To indicate that the function returns a primitive type and takes a generic argument, the interface is named **ToXXXFunction**, for example, ToIntFunction.
- To indicate that the function takes a primitive argument and returns another primitive type, the interface is named **XXXToYYYFunction**, where XXX is the argument type and YYY is the return type, for example, IntToDoubleFunction.

• A supplier is an operation that takes no arguments, but it returns some value. Its functional descriptor is:

```
() -> T
```

- It has primitive versions for int , long , double and boolean , for example, IntSupplier .
- UnaryOperator is a specialization of the Function interface (in fact, this interface extends from it) for when the argument and the result are of the same type. So its functional descriptor is:

```
T -> T
```

- It has primitive versions for int , long and double , for example, IntUnaryOperator .
- A BiPredicate represents a predicate that takes two arguments. Its functional descriptor is:

```
(T, U) -> T
```

- This interface doesn't have primitive versions.
- A BiConsumer represents a consumer that takes two arguments. Its functional descriptor is:

```
(T, U) -> void
```

- It has primitive versions for int, long and double. They take one object and a primitive value as a second argument. So the naming conventions change to ObjXXXConsumer, where XXX is the primitive type, for example, ObjIntConsumer.
- A BiFunction represents a function that takes two arguments of different type and produces a result of another type. Its functional descriptor is:

```
(T, U) -> R
```

- It has primitive versions that take generic types as arguments and return int,
 long and double primitive types, with the naming convention Toxxxbifunction,
 where XXX is the primitive type.
- A BinaryOperator is a specialization of the BiFunction interface (in fact, this interface extends from it) for when the arguments and the result are of the same type. Its functional descriptor is:

```
(T, T) -> T
```

• It defines two static methods:

• It has primitive versions for int , long and double , for example, IntBinaryOperator .

Self Test

1. Given:

```
}
```

What is the result?

- A. p1
- B. p2
- C. p1p2
- D. false
- E. Compilation fails
- 2. Which of the following interfaces is a valid primitive version of BiConsumer<T, U>?
- A. IntBiConsumer
- B. ObjLongConsumer
- C. ToLongBiConsumer
- D. IntToDoubleConsumer
- 3. Given:

What is the result?

- A. 24
- B. 14
- C. 4
- D. 2
- E. Compilation fails
- 4. Which of the following statements is true?
- A. A consumer takes a parameter of type T and returns a result of the same type.
- B. UnaryOperator is a specialization of the Operator interface.
- C. The Bifunction interface doesn't have primitive versions.
- D. A Supplier represents an operation that takes no arguments, but it returns some value.
- 5. Given:

```
public class Question_10_3 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Supplier<Boolean> s = () -> {
            Random generator = new Random();
            int n = generator.nextInt(1);
            return n % 2 == 0;
        };
        System.out.println(s.getAsBoolean());
    }
}
```

What is the result?

- A. true
- B. false
- C. Sometimes true, sometimes false
- D. Compilation fails

- 6. Which of the following interfaces is a valid primitive version of BiPredicate<T, U>?
- A. IntBiPredicate
- B. ObiBooleanPredicate
- C. ToLongBiPredicate
- D. BiPredicate doesn't have primitive versions
- 7. Which of the following primitive version of Function returns a generic type while taking a long argument?
- A. ToLongFunction
- B. LongFunction
- C. LongToObjectFunction
- D. There's no primitive version with this characteristic
- 8. Which of the following statements is true?
- A. The BinaryOperator interface extends from the BiFunction interface.
- B. The Bisupplier interface only takes one generic argument.
- C. The Supplier interface doesn't define any default methods.
- D. minBy and maxBy are two default methods of the BinaryOperator interface.

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09. Lambda Expressions

11. Method References